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NPIC/IEG (9/82)

16 SEPTEMBER 198

**NEW TANK BRIGADE  
MATOLA MILITARY INSTALLATION, MOZAMBIQUE**

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1. (SWN) SIGNIFICANCE: THE TANK BRIGADE NEWLY FORMING IN SOUTHERN MOZAMBIQUE HAS PROBABLY RECEIVED ITS FULL COMPLEMENT OF EQUIPMENT.
2. (SWN) REMARKS: SINCE IMAGERY [ ] PROVIDED INITIAL EVIDENCE OF A MAJOR GROUND FORCES UNIT FORMING NEAR MATOLA, A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT HAS ARRIVED AT THIS NEW MILITARY INSTALLATION. THE NEWLY FORMED UNIT CAN NOW BE IDENTIFIED AS A TANK BRIGADE. THIS UNIT IS UNIQUE IN MOZAMBIQUE--IT IS THE FIRST UNIT CONFIRMED TO HAVE BMP, IT HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF TANKS OF ANY GROUND FORCES UNIT IN COUNTRY, AND THE AMOUNT OF AIR DEFENSE IS UNUSUALLY HIGH FOR A MOZAMBIKAN MILITARY FACILITY. 25X1

(SWN) THE MAJOR SUBORDINATE UNITS ARE PARKED IN SEPARATE LOCATIONS AND INCLUDE THREE TANK BATTALIONS EACH EQUIPPED WITH 19 POSSIBLE T-54/55 TANKS (CANVAS-COVERED); ONE TANK BATTALION EQUIPPED WITH AT LEAST 17 T-34 TANKS (POSSIBLY A TRAINING BATTALION); ONE MECHANIZED INFANTRY BATTALION EQUIPPED WITH 21 BMP ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS (CANVAS-COVERED); AND ONE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY EQUIPPED WITH EIGHT TANKS AND THREE BMP.

(SWN) SUPPORT UNITS INCLUDE ONE ENGINEER COMPANY WITH FOUR GSP AMPHIBIOUS HEAVY FERRIES AND SEVERAL EARTH MOVING PIECES OF EQUIPMENT; A POSSIBLE SIGNAL COMPANY; AND A TRANSPORTATION UNIT.

(SWN) THREE PROBABLE ZSU-57/2 SELF-PROPELLED ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY BATTERIES AND THREE TOWED LIGHT ANTIAIRCRAFT BATTERIES (NOT ON GRAPHIC) ARE DEPLOYED IN THE CAMP AREA.

(SWN) CONSTRUCTION OF THE FACILITY WAS CONTINUING AND AT LEAST 150 PEOPLE WERE IN GROUPS OR FORMATION THROUGHOUT THE CAMP.

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**WARNING NOTICE**  
Intelligence Sources  
and Methods Involved

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(S) THE CAMP IS 2 NM SOUTH-SOUTHWEST OF MATOLA, 11 NM  
NORTHWEST OF MAPUTO, AND 25 NM FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN BORDER.

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3. (S) [REDACTED] COORDINATES 25-50-27S 032-25-07E

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